

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether ten exchanges are connected with Sahibganj Main Exchange having about 1700 connections and 8+8 STD channel facility only;

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the number of STD channel facility from 8+8 to 30+30.

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which the facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No. Sir. Eight Exchanges are working on over head carrier system and two exchanges on over head lines.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Bankudih, Barharwa, Bhagaiya, Gangati Taljhari, Tinpuhar, Udhwa, Barahait on UHF System.

Rajmahal, Murza Chowki on Optical Fibre Systems to be commissioned progressively during 1997-98 and 1998-99.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, question does not arise.

(e) Yes. Sir.

(f) Yes. Sir.

(g) and (h). 15+15 Circuits by March, 1997

30+30 Circuits by March, 1999.

New Railway Zones

953. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for setting up new proposed South-West Railway Zone Headquarter in Kerala.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the development of Railway in Kerala;

(d) whether office of the Chief Engineer (construction) has been sanctioned for Kerala in 1991;

(e) if so, whether such office has started functioning; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes. Sir. A few representations have been received regarding setting up of Zonal headquarters of South-West zone in Kerala.

(c) The following works have been taken up for development of Railway in Kerala :

(i) Doubling of Kayankulam-Quilon has been completed.

(ii) Doubling of Quilon-Trivandrum is being progressed.

(iii) Doubling of Shoranpur-Mangalore has been taken up.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Hindi Consultative Committee

954. SHRI JAGADAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi Salakar Samiti has been constituted in the Ministry;

(b) if so, the number of sittings held so far;

(c) the number of Official Language Implementation Committees at various level in the Ministry and whether their sittings are held regularly;

(d) whether Members and Chairman of these Committees, who are responsible to encourage maximum use of Hindi are doing their own work in official language;

(e) the number of modern equipments converted into bi-lingual and the persons, places where this equipment, having Devnagari script would be used as all the records are kept in English.

(f) the reasons for non-completion of the programme in 23-24 years, which can be completed in one year, and

(g) whether it is likely to be completed this year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes. Sir. After having reconstituted the Committee on 9th March, 1995, its meeting was held on 15.11.1995.

(c) Official Language Implementation Committees have been constructed in the Ministry as well as in most of the Offices under it and efforts are made to convene their meetings in each quarter.

(d) Yes. Sir. Do their work in Hindi according to their convenience.

(e) Most of the modern equipment being used in the Ministry as well as various offices/undertakings etc under its control have bilingual facility and instructions have been given to do maximum work in Hindi on them.

(f) and (g). Prescribed targets for some of the items in the Annual Programme have been achieved fully